**Amendments to the Claims**:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original)  A method for delivering short message service (SMS) messages sent by a sender to a recipient over a communications network, the method including: receiving an SMS message from the sender; sending an automatic verification request to the sender requesting a verification response, wherein the verification request is sent before the SMS message is delivered to the recipient; receiving the verification response from the sender; and delivering the SMS message to the recipient upon receiving the verification response.

2. (Original)  A method according to claim 1, further including verifying the SMS message, wherein the SMS message includes a sender identification and verifying the SMS message includes comparing the one or more sender lists, the one or more sender lists including a white list, and the SMS message is delivered to the recipient where the sender identification is included in the white list, and a verification request is sent to the sender where the sender identification is not included in the white list.

3. (Currently Amended)  A method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein the sender identification is a mobile telephone number.

4. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the sender identification is an email address.

5. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 4~~claim 2, wherein the one or more sender lists includes a black list, and the white list includes a list of authorised senders and the black list includes a list of unauthorised senders.

6. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 5~~claim 2, wherein the one or more sender lists includes a super white list, and the SMS message is delivered to the recipient where the sender identification is included on a super white list.

7. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the SMS message is received by a mobile telephone and wherein delivering the SMS message to the recipient includes allowing display of the SMS message on the mobile telephone.

8. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein the SMS message is received by a system server and wherein delivering the SMS message to the recipient includes transmitting the SMS message from the system server to the mobile telephone.

9. (Original)  A method according to claim 6, wherein the super white list is synchronized with a second super white list over the communications network, wherein the second super white list is stored on a system server database.

10. (Original)  A method according to claim 6, wherein the white list is synchronized with a second white list over the communications network, wherein the second white list is stored on a system server database.

11. (Original)  A method according to claim 6, wherein the black list is synchronized with a second black list over the communications network, wherein the second black list is stored on a system server database.

12. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 11~~claim 2, wherein the one or more sender lists are stored on a mobile telephone SIM card.

13. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 12~~claim 2, wherein the one or more sender lists are stored on a system server database.

14. (Currently Amended)  A method according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 13~~claim 5, wherein the SMS message is discarded where the sender identification is included on the a black list.

15. (Original)  A system for delivering short message service (SMS) messages sent by a sender to a recipient over a communications network, the system including : receiving means for receiving an SMS message from the sender; transmission means for sending an automatic verification request to the sender requesting a verification response, wherein the verification request is sent before the SMS message is delivered to the recipient; receiving means for receiving the verification response from the sender; and delivering means for displaying the SMS message to the recipient upon receiving the verification response.

16. (Original)  A system according to claim 15 further including verification means for verifying the SMS message, wherein the SMS message includes a sender identification and verifying the SMS message includes comparing the one or more sender lists, the one or more sender lists including a white list, and the SMS message is delivered to the recipient where

the sender identification is included in the white list, and a verification request is sent to the sender where the sender identification is not included in the white list.

17. (Original)  A system according to claim 16, wherein the sender identification is a mobile telephone number.

18. (Currently Amended)  A system according to claim 16 of claim 17, wherein the sender identification is an email address.

19. (Currently Amended)  A system according to any one of claims 16 to 18claim 16, wherein the one or more sender lists includes a black list, and the white list includes a list of authorised senders and the black list includes a list of unauthorised senders.

20. (Currently Amended)  A system according to any one of claims 16 to 19claim 16, wherein the one or more sender lists includes a super white list, and the SMS message is delivered to the recipient where the sender identification is included on a super white list.

21. (Currently Amended)  A system according to any one of claims 15 to 20claim 15, wherein the SMS message is received by a mobile telephone and wherein delivering the SMS message to the recipient includes allowing display of the SMS message on the mobile telephone.

22. (Currently Amended)  A system according to any one of claims 15 to 21claim 15, wherein the SMS message is received by a system server and wherein delivering the SMS message to the recipient includes transmitting the SMS message from the system server to the mobile telephone.

23. (Original) A system according to claim 20, wherein the super white list is synchronized with a second super white list over the communications network, wherein the second super white lists is stored on a system server database.

24. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 23~~claim 16, wherein the one or more sender lists are stored on a mobile telephone SIM card.

25. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 24~~claim 16, wherein the one or more sender lists are stored in a memory device on a mobile device.

26. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 25~~claim 16, wherein the one or more sender lists are stored on a system server database.

27. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~any one of claims 19 to 26~~claim 19, wherein the SMS message is discarded where the sender identification is included on the a black list.

28. (Canceled) ~~A method for delivering short message service (SMS) messages over a communications network substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.~~

29. (Canceled) ~~A system for delivering short message service (SMS) messages over a communications network substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.~~